

4 17. (New) A method for lowering the levels of active TNF- α in a mammal having arthritis, which comprises administering to such mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a TNF-antagonist selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a TNF receptor comprising the sequence of amino acids 3-163 of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(b) a chimeric antibody comprising a TNF receptor according to (a) fused to the constant domain of an immunoglobulin molecule.

5 18. (New) A method for lowering the levels of active TNF- α in a mammal having arthritis, which comprises administering to said mammal a TNF-lowering amount of a TNF receptor comprising the sequence of amino acids 3-163 of SEQ ID NO:1.

6 19. (New) A method for lowering the levels of active TNF- α in a mammal having arthritis, which comprises administering to said mammal a TNF-lowering amount of a chimeric antibody comprising a TNF receptor comprising the sequence of amino acids 3-163 of SEQ ID NO:1 fused to the constant domain of an immunoglobulin molecule.

Cancel claims 10 - 13.

REMARKS

Claims 10 - 13 are canceled and replaced by new claims 14-19 to more particularly define and distinctly claim what applicants consider as their invention. The new claims are provided after telephonic discussion with Examiner John Lucas. Claims 15, 16, 18 and 19 are added also to independently claim the individual members of the respective Markush groups in claims 14 and 17.

Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge applicants' deposit account no. 09-0089 in the amount of \$312 for four new independent claims; as six are presented here with two replacing claims previously paid for.

The new claims recite applicants' invention as a "method for lowering active TNF- α levels in a mammal...." The amended language it is synonymous with the language used by applicants' disclosure of TNFR binding to TNF. Support in the priority documents can also be found in application serial no. 523,635 filed May 10, 1990, now U.S. Patent No. 5,395,760; and in application serial no. 421,417, filed October 13, 1989 and in application serial no. 405,370 filed Sept. 11, 1989; and application serial no. 403,241, filed Sept. 5, 1989. The specific places of support were detailed in applicants' previous response.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments more clearly permit the benefit of priority be claimed to September 5, 1989 and thus antedates the art of record.

08/385,229 Amendment B

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